

VLR-12/11/91 NRHP-10/15/92

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name KIRKLAND GROVE CAMPGROUND
other names/site number Kirkland Grave Camp Ground, DHR File.No. 66-89

2. Location

street & number SR 779, 1.6 mi. S. of Heathsville N/A not for publication
city, town Heathsville vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Northumberland coda 133 zip code 22473

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 80. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Hugh C. Miller
Signature of certifying official
Director, Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau
Date 9/3/92

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious facility
Church-related residence

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious facility
SOCIAL

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

NO STYLE

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls WOOD

roof METAL: Tin

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Kirkland Grove is a Baptist campground in the vicinity of rural Heathsville, Virginia. The 23 1/2-acre site is located on State Route 779, approximately 1 1/2 miles south of Heathsville. It was established in 1892, and named in honor of Dr. William Heath Kirk, a Baptist minister active in Northumberland County from 1845-1884. The campground was the site of week-long religious services, which evolved into the outstanding social event of the area. It is presently used for church meetings, revivals, reunions, and youth camp activities. The campground is surrounded by ravines and is in a natural setting. There is no evidence of planned or formal landscaping. On the property are three historically significant buildings, all made of wood.

The great Tabernacle, which measures 90' x 90' and is reported to have been built to the Biblical specifications of the Old Testament Tabernacle, was used as the central place of worship.¹ Designed and built by William Dandridge Cockrell, a local craftsman, it is an example of vernacular architecture constructed primarily for utility and not in any established style. Timber columns standing on concrete piers serve as structural supports, leaving the ground floor open. Five of these columns stand at its principal elevation, with the spaces between the columns measuring 22'-6" on center. The standing-seam-metal hipped roof has four square tiers rising from the center, each tier growing smaller toward the top. The tiers have weatherboard siding, metal-sheathed hipped roofs, and windows with louvered shutters. Kirkland Grove's square building form is similar to other religious campground tabernacles, including the Methodist Tabernacle, in the vicinity of Matthews County.

The Camper's Tent housed the family who erected it. Although a permanent structure, it was only used during the week-long summer revival meetings. It is in serious disrepair. It is a two-story, one-bay, gable-fronted structure with an inset-porch, covered in lapped weatherboard cladding. The door on the first story is on the far east side. The second story projects beyond the first story, with the front porch filling the space below. Two windows are centered on the second story. A low-sloped gable roof, with standing-seam sheathing, caps the building.

The Preacher's Tent, which underwent a major renovation/alteration in 1965, served as the temporary residence of the visiting evangelical minister. It is a two-story, two-bay structure covered in vertical board set edge to edge on the first story porch, and horizontal lapped weatherboard on the second story. As on the Camper's Tent, the second story overhangs the first story, forming a porch below. The door on the first story is on the east side, and a window is on the west side. There is one window centered on the second story. The low-sloped gable

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

RELIGION

Period of Significance

1892-1941

Significant Dates

1892

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Cockrell, William Dandridge

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Kirkland Grove is a religious campground established in 1892 in rural Northumberland County, about a mile from the county seat, Heathsville. It is one of the state's half-dozen remaining nineteenth-century religious campgrounds and one of three such campgrounds known to have operated in the Northern Neck. Marvin Grove in Lancaster County burned in 1930; Wharton Grove in Richmond County still has some of its cottages, but Kirkland Grove is the only religious campground in the Northern Neck that still retains its Tabernacle.¹ Tabernacles became a popular method of sheltering camp meetings in late nineteenth-century Virginia, and testify to the importance of evangelical religion in the state at that time. Kirkland Grove retains three buildings from the earliest years of the camp's operation: the tabernacle, a camper's tent and the preacher's tent. Together, these illustrate the three elements vital to religious revivals: the center of worship, the evangelical minister and the congregation. Kirkland Grove attests to the impact that the camp meetings had on the local populace as a stimulating, vibrant force of organized religion. Kirkland Grove has been used for revival meetings every summer since its erection, and is the only campground in the Northern Neck that still holds yearly revivals.

JUSTIFICATION OF CRITERIA

Kirkland Grove Campground is being nominated under Criterion C, for its architecture, and Criterion A, for its significance to local history. Criteria Consideration A applies because the property is a religious one. Since the campground has been used continuously since its erection, the period of significance extends from the year the buildings were erected, in 1892, to the National Register fifty-year cutoff date, or 1941.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The period between 1890 and 1920 has been termed the Third Great Awakening.² By the late nineteenth century, Darwinism, urbanism and the declining role of the self-sufficient farmer challenged the divine support of older belief and values.³ Efforts of biblical scholars to "redefine and relocate God, provide means of access to him, and sacralize a new world view" spurred a religious revival and the camp meeting comeback.⁴ The nineteenth-century revivals eventually became less spontaneous and more routine and institutionalized.⁵ Kirkland Grove's tabernacle is an example of the permanent shelters erected as camp meetings became regularly scheduled events.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Harper, Jean. "The Tradition of Kirkland Grove," *The Northumberland Echo*, 16 August 1973.
- Jett, Carolyn H., "Highlights from an Interview with Mrs. Alma Brent Neale (September 1984), *The Bulletin of the Northumberland County Historical Society*, 73.
- Loth, Calder, ed., *The Virginia Landmarks Register, 3d ed.*, (Charlottesville: published for the Virginia Historic Landmarks Board by the University Press of Virginia, 1986).
- McLoughlin, William Gerald. *Revivals, Awakenings, and Reform*. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1978).
- Newsome, Garnet H., "Precious memories of Kirkland Grove," n.d., [1], collection of Albert Fisher of materials pertaining to Kirkland Grove Campground, Heathsville.
- O'Grady, Kelly J., "Kirkland Grove Camp: Worshipping God in a Sacred Place," *The Northumberland Echo*, 3 February 1988, [1].
- Wilson, John C., *Virginia's Northern Neck: a Pictorial History*. Norfolk: The Donning Company/Publishers, 1984.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (38 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources
221 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 23.5 acres

UTM References

A 1, 8 | 3, 6, 9, 4, 4, 0 | 4, 1, 9, 5, 7, 4, 0
Zone Easting Northing

C 1, 8 | 3, 6, 9, 3, 2, 0 | 4, 1, 9, 5, 4, 2, 0

B 1, 8 | 3, 6, 9, 4, 2, 0 | 4, 1, 9, 5, 4, 2, 0
Zone Easting Northing

D 1, 8 | 3, 6, 9, 3, 0, 0 | 4, 1, 9, 5, 8, 0, 0

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked by the following UTM reference points: A 18/369440/4195740, B 18/369420/4195420, C 18/369320/4195420, and D 18/369300/4195800.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all surviving contributing structures as well as the acreage historically associated with the resource.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patricia Nolan Weeks
organization Mary Washington College date 18 December 1990
street & number 1301 College Avenue telephone 703-899-4037
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Kirkland Grove Campground, Northumberland Co., VA

roof covered with standing-seam metal. The Camper's and Preacher's Tents have no specific style, but are interesting examples of vernacular architecture designed by local builders to serve a functional purpose. Except for the Preacher's Tent, the significant structures at Kirkland Grove retain most of their original materials. Three noncontributing structures were constructed in 1965: a caretaker's cottage, outdoor restrooms, and a shower house.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

Kirkland Grove Campground, established in 1892, was the site of week-long religious services for the Baptist residents in the vicinity of rural Heathsville, Virginia. It was built on a level ridge surrounded by ravines. Its setting is natural, with no evidence of formal landscaping. The Tabernacle, in relation to its purpose as the hub of religious activity, is located in the center of the property. The Camper's Tent lies approximately 205 feet to the east of the Tabernacle. The Preacher's Tent is approximately 205 feet south of the Tabernacle, centered on the pulpit. All buildings face north.

Kirkland Grove Tabernacle

The Kirkland Grove Tabernacle, built in 1892, was the design of craftsman William Dandridge Cockrell. Although not formal, ornate, or monumental it nonetheless suited the needs and tastes of the local Baptists who gathered under it. It is an open structure supported by heavy timbers standing on concrete piers. The timbers are arranged in a grid of five rows of five columns, forming a square. A hipped roof sheathed with standing-seam metal caps each tier. Since the four sides of the building are identical, only the north, or principal, elevation will be used for architectural description. The cladding on the exterior facades of the tiers is horizontal lapped weatherboard and remains the same throughout the structure. The twenty-eight windows in the tiers are covered with louvered shutters that do not open.

The north elevation has five structural supports. Large squared timbers, approximately twelve inches in diameter, stand on concrete piers. Each pier is two feet tall. Its base is fifteen inches square and gradually narrows to thirteen inches square at the top. The piers are positioned on an average of 22'-6" apart on center, making the north side ninety feet in length. The square timbers are chamfered, becoming four-sided about two feet from the top where they connect to the roof structure. They are whitewashed up to the first brace. Decorative saw-tooth trim adorns the roof line. This same trim is also found on the roof lines of the graduated tiers. The roof slopes gently upward until it meets the second tier. Five windows are symmetrically placed in the first tier. Its roof follows the same slope as the one below, rising toward the third tier. One window is centered in the second tier. The fourth tier rises above the third tier and has one centered window. It also functions as the bell tower. A wooden cross stands atop the entire structure.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

Kirkland Grove Campground, Northumberland Co., VA

Seen from beneath, the roof is comprised of heavy timber beams arranged in a system of diagonal braces. Cockrell utilized mortise-and-tenon and notch techniques on the support beams and used nails on the common rafters. All the beams are left visible, lending an additional airy feeling to the already open shelter. The sawdust floor of the Tabernacle is replenished when it begins to wear thin. There are permanently fixed elements in the Tabernacle that may be considered as functionally important as the roof, albeit for different reasons. The preaching pulpit is located almost in the center of the building. Facing north, it stands on an elevated platform. The sloping choir platform adjoins the pulpit platform at its southwest corner. Surrounding the pulpit and the choir "loft" in a U-plan are 101 fixed congregational benches, most of which are said to be original. The benches are an average of eighteen feet long. If one person occupied two feet of space, the Tabernacle could accommodate over 900 people. Electrical lights were added in 1965.

Kirkland Grove Camper's Tent

The Camper's Tent was erected in 1892. The reference to "Tent" for a wooden structure is possibly a holdover from the earliest camp dwellings, which were canvas tents. The present building is a balloon frame structure. It was not built in a specific style; rather, it is an example of folk architecture constructed by local builders to produce functional housing for the summer meetings. The Tent is two-stories, with a two-bay front, and is constructed entirely of wood, except for the metal roof. All cladding is horizontal weatherboard. There is no glass in any window. Every window opening is 2'-2" wide. On two windows, a single wooden shutter fits into a wooden track. This shutter could be slid up to open the window space, or down to close it. A low-sloped gable roof caps the building. The roof has a wide eave overhang that is open, not boxed. There are no casings around the windows, nor is there any trim around the doors. There is no electricity or plumbing in the Tent.

On the north elevation, at the front gable end, is the first-story porch measuring 14'-3" wide by 5'-11" deep, with porch supports that are roughly sawed into a round shape. The second story overhangs the first story living space, giving a roof to the porch below. The porch floor is made of wooden planks placed edge to edge, lying north to south. These same planks extend under the exterior cladding to form part of the interior floor. Entrance to the building is gained through the door on the first story, placed at the extreme east side of the facade. The door is board-on-board and does not appear to be original. It is neither the same color as the exterior nor is it as weathered. There is no other opening on the first story. Two open window bays are centered on the second-story facade. They are incorporated into decorative facing that resembles a classical temple. Board-and-batten forms the base of the temple motif. The windows are part of the upper half which rises into the temple pediment. A band of ornamental woodwork, sawed in the shape of scalloped semi-circles, once hung from the roof line of the porch. Only three examples of the semi-circles remain. The scallop motif may be a remnant of the scalloped trim found on canvas tents.²

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3 Kirkland Grove Campground, Northumberland Co., VA

The east elevation is 26'-3" in length. The first-story wall surface begins 5'-11" from the northeast cornerpost because the porch is open. There are no openings.

The south elevation has one opening, the door bay, at the extreme east side. Again, the door (although detached) is board-on-board and does not appear to be original. Two window bays are centered on the second story. There is no decoration or stickwork on the south facade. The weatherboards extend up into the gable without breaking.

The west elevation has only two openings, the window bays on the first story. They are positioned approximately 6'-3" and 11'-9" on center from the southwest corner post. These two windows are the only ones that retain their wooden shutters. The shutters are board-on-board and rests in a wooden track on the interior of the wall.

The Camper's Tent interior is organized in a side-passage plan. On the first story, the side passage measures 2'-11.5" wide and is located on the east side, connecting the front and back doors. Two rooms occupy the west half of the building. A narrow and enclosed, single-run staircase, measuring 2'-2.5" wide, separates the two rooms. The staircase is steep, having risers eight inches high and treads eight inches deep. There is no interior sheathing; the lapped cladding on the exterior also forms the interior outer wall surfaces. The interior walls of the west side of the passage are vertical lapped boards of varying widths. The first-story flooring is wooden planks set edge to edge.

The room at the north end measures 10'-3" wide by 9'-8" deep, with a ceiling height of 7'-4 1/2". The staircase rises along the south wall over an open spandrel. There is one window, with its wooden shutter, on the west wall. The window is located between two studs. The tracks that hold the shutter are constructed by nailing narrow strips of wood to the studs, holding the shutter against the interior wall and the window frame. The shutter may be slid vertically to open the window space. The room at the south end measures 10'-3" square and also has one window, with the same mechanics, on the west wall. The north wall of the south room is the only wall on the first story that is flush vertical boarding. There is no indication as to the use of the first story rooms.

Three rooms are located on the second story. The largest is immediately north at the top on the stairs and occupies the space overhanging the porch. It measures 13'-5" wide by 13'-2" deep, and has a door at the southeast and southwest ends of the room. Horizontal boards, one on the floor and one six feet up from the floor, stretching north to south down the center of the room suggest that at one time the single room was divided into two rooms, with a door in each room. South of the stairs are two rooms separated by a vertical board-on-board wall of varying heights and widths. The southeast room measures 6'-8" wide by 7'-1" deep. Remains of a wooden bunk are retained on the west wall. The bunk suggests that the second-story living space was used as sleeping quarters. The southwest room, 6'-10" wide by 7'-1" deep. Overhead, the metal roof material is clearly visible. Common rafters support the roof. Ceiling height, to the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4

Kirkland Grove Campground, Northumberland Co., VA

apex of the gable roof, is 9'-0". The second-story flooring is of wooden planks laid edge to edge, like that of the first story.

Kirkland Grove Preacher's Tent

Like the other two significant structures at Kirkland Grove Camp Ground, the Preacher's Tent was built about 1892. A major renovation effort in 1965 put the structure on concrete cinder block piers and altered other features of the building. Plumbing, electricity, and a stove flue were added. The exterior is of the same shape as the Camper's Tent: long and narrow, two-story with second-story living space overhanging a porch, door bays at the gable ends, and a low-sloped, standing-seam metal gable roof. As before, the roof has a wide eave overhang, is open and not boxed. All of the windows, unless otherwise described, are two-over-two double-hung sash windows, measuring 2'-4" wide. The exterior window casings and door trim are plain, flat boards. All exterior cladding, unless otherwise described, is horizontal lapped weatherboard.

The north elevation is two bays wide. The porch measures 16'-4" wide by 8'-11" deep and the porch supports are square, sawed timbers. The porch roof is formed by the overhanging second story. It is entirely screened in by small-gauge wire mesh. The porch floor, a 1965 alteration, is a poured concrete slab resting on a cinder block foundation rising approximately nine inches above the ground. The door bay on the first story is at the extreme east side of the wall. The door is contemporary, two-over-two light window at the top and three raised rectangular panels at the bottom. A fixed window, 3'-4" wide, is on the far west side of the wall. The cladding on the first-story porch is vertical flush boarding and is the only place on the building where such cladding occurs. The second story has one window centered on the wall. The cladding extends without breaking to the top of the gable.

The east elevation is 26'-2" long. Because the building sits on cinder blocks and is situated on a gentle slope, there is space between the sill and the earth on all four sides. The first story wall surface begins 8'-11" from the northeast cornerpost. It has one window centered on the wall. Two windows light the second story, one directly above the first-floor window and other in the wall space over the porch.

The south elevation has one door bay centered on the wall. The door is the same as that on the north side. A window is centered above the door on the second story. A cinder block flue is located at the far southwest corner of the building.

The west elevation has three windows. One is positioned in the middle of the wall. The remaining two are in the second story. One is above the first story window and other is in the wall space over the porch.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 5

Kirkland Grove Campground, Northumberland Co., VA

All interior walls and ceilings are drywall. The floors are wooden tongue-and-groove boards, 3.25" wide, although they are covered with an assortment of modern flooring (e.g., linoleum, plywood). The window and door casings are plain, flat boards, similar to those on the exterior, and measure four inches wide. The baseboards throughout the Tent are wide and plain boards, six inches wide, with a quarter-round moulding applied at the floor. Ceiling height throughout the building is 8'-0". Although currently used for storage, the historical use of the rooms is uncertain.

The interior living space is accessed through the door on the north elevation. The first story has a single room, measuring 15'-3" wide by 16'-4" deep. Sloping upwards along the north wall is a single-run, enclosed staircase. The staircase is narrow, 2'-4" wide, and steep. Its twelve risers are nine inches high, and the treads are ten inches deep. Centered on the south wall is a door leading to the outside.

The second story has two rooms. A small room, 15'-3" wide by 8'-11" deep, is north of the staircase in the area that overhangs the porch. On the south side of the staircase landing is a larger room, 15'-3" wide by 13'-7" deep.

ENDNOTES

1. Carolyn H. Jett, *Preliminary Information Request*, Information form completed as part of the process of nomination of Kirkland Grove Campground to the National Register, provided by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Conservation and Historic Resources, Division of Historic Landmarks, 13 January 1989.

2. John C. Wilson, *Virginia's Northern Neck: a Pictorial History* (Norfolk: The Donning Company/Publishers, 1984), 89.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 6 Kirkland Grove Campground, Northumberland Co., VA

Kirkland Grove Campground was established in 1892, near Heathsville, Virginia, on 23 1/2 acres purchased by the Kirkland Grove Camp Meeting Committee.⁶ It was named in honor of Dr. William Heath Kirk, a Baptist minister in Northumberland County from 1845 to 1884.⁷ Camp meetings were scheduled for the third week in August so as not to interfere with the earlier summer meetings of the nearby Methodist campground Marvin Grove.⁸

The Tabernacle dominated Kirkland Grove's camp meetings. Located in the center of the campground, its 101 benches were filled throughout the day as participants listened to one or more of the six daily services.⁹ The Tabernacle's timbers are reputedly made from oak trees cut on the site.¹⁰ The accoutrements, congregational benches, pulpit and choir tiers, were also made from local materials. The Tabernacle was designed and built by William Dandridge Cockrell, a local carpenter, with the help of his brother, John.¹¹ Apparently Cockrell had no formal architectural training; his skills were either self-taught or learned through an apprenticeship.¹² Evidence of a written design by Cockrell for the Tabernacle was not found. Cockrell's family attended Kirkland Grove's meetings and owned a Tent on the premises.¹³ The campground is still frequented by the Cockrell family, during its August revivals and the Cockrell family reunions.¹⁴

The Campers' Tents were residences of the visitors to Kirkland Grove. At the turn of the century, forty-two of these white cottages lined the avenues which radiated out from the Tabernacle.¹⁵ Families built a permanent house, or tent, and lived in it during the revival meetings; it was known by the family name (e.g., the Cockrell Tent).¹⁶ All of the tents were similar in form: two stories with the second story overhanging a porch. The two-story design allowed more space under one roof, less maintenance, more circulation, and less heat during the hot August meetings.¹⁷ Decorations, such as scallop trim, were added by the family. Only two examples of these tents survive at Kirkland Grove. One family tent remains, but the family's identity is unknown. The other tent is known as the "Preacher's Tent," specifically constructed for the visiting minister.

The meetings were not only a religious experience, but a social one as well. Families were able to see friends and relatives that many had not seen in almost a year, sometimes since the last camp meeting.¹⁸ Anticipation of the social gathering meant advanced preparation. New outfits, stockings, and shoes were made or purchased; the young lady of the family had to have the very latest styles and would not dare wear their new finery before camp meeting.¹⁹ The very best was taken to show off.²⁰ Owners of carriages for hire and horse lots began to advertise, hoping to profit from the crowds drawn to the camp meetings.²¹ Cooks were employed by families unable to prepare their own meals, with much competition over obtaining the best chef.²² The camp photographer was always willing to help participants remember their visit with a picture.²³

Kirkland Grove fostered memories that campgoers fondly recall decades later. Many courtships resulted in marriage that began with Kirkland Grove's tradition of the "promenade": young men

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 7

Kirkland Grove Campground, Northumberland Co., VA

invited the girls of their choice to link arms and stroll around the Tabernacle.²⁴ One young man apparently was so bashful that even after he had asked a young lady to promenade with him and had been accepted, he still walked behind with the group of boys.²⁵

Another favorite pastime was waiting in the concession stand lines for ice cream, candy, cracker jacks, lemonade, or ice water.²⁶ According to one camper, ice cream was only available three times a year, Fourth of July, Christmas, and campmeetings.²⁷ Most remembrances speak more of the camp's fellowships, food, hayrides and bell ringing than of the many religious speakers.²⁸

Nonetheless, Kirkland Grove's camp meetings played a major role in the religious lives of the people of the Northern Neck. They were a time for revival and inspiration.

It served as a time of training for church school teachers, lay leaders, and local preachers. It helped to preserve a strong sense of denominational unity among the scattered congregations of the Neck. The sermons and the special music had a strong emotional appeal that no doubt softened many a heart to the point of Christian commitment. It was surely a great advantage to the Church that the major social event of the year was irrevocably linked to religion.²⁹

An excerpt from a poem, "Camping At Kirkland," written by camp participant, G. M. Burroughs, perhaps sums up the sentiment of many:

Whene'er the week had ended, we moved back home again,
Revitalized and happy that we'd reaped some "golden grain."
A seed of love, a seed of faith, a seed of friendship, too,
We found in our possession, with others that we grew.³⁰

Camp meetings continued from 1892 to 1941 when effects of the Second World War, gasoline rationing and the shortage of tires, forced the campground to close.³¹ Kirkland Grove fell into disrepair until 1956, when restoration efforts were made and revivals resumed.³² Revival services are still held annually.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Kirkland Grove Campground, Northumberland Co., VA

ENDNOTES

1. Wilson, John C., *Virginia's Northern Neck: a Pictorial History*. Norfolk: The Donning Company/Publishers, 1984, p. 88.
2. William Gerald McLoughlin, *Revivals, Awakenings, and Reform*. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1978), p. 141.
3. Ibid., 150.
4. Ibid., 152.
5. Calder Loth, ed., *The Virginia Landmarks Register, 3d ed.*, (Charlottesville: published for the Virginia Historic Landmarks Board by the University Press of Virginia, 1986), p. 268.
6. Northumberland County Courthouse, Heathsville, Virginia, Deed Book K at page 73.
7. Wilson, 91.
8. Jean Harper, "The Tradition of Kirkland Grove," *The Northumberland Echo*, 16 August 1973, 1-B.
9. Wilson, 88.
10. Isabelle Gough and Naomi Luttrell, descendants of William Dandridge Cockrell, interview by Bonnie Weeks, 21 October 1990, Heathsville.
11. Ibid.
12. Ibid.
13. Ibid.
14. Gough, 21 October 1990.
15. Harper, 1-B. A sketch, drawn by a member of Coan Baptist Church who frequently attended Kirkland Grove's camp meetings and submitted by Albert Fisher, depicts the layout of the camp.
16. Harper, 1-B.
17. Wilson, 89.
18. Garnet H. Newsome, "Precious memories of Kirkland Grove," n.d., [1], collection of Albert Fisher of materials pertaining to Kirkland Grove Campground, Heathsville.
19. Carolyn H. Jett, "Camp Meetings in the Northern Neck" [photocopy], p. [6].
20. Carolyn H. Jett, "Highlights from an Interview with Mrs. Alma Brent Neale (September 1984), *The Bulletin of the Northumberland County Historical Society*, 73.
21. Ibid.
22. Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 9

Kirkland Grove Campground, Northumberland Co., VA

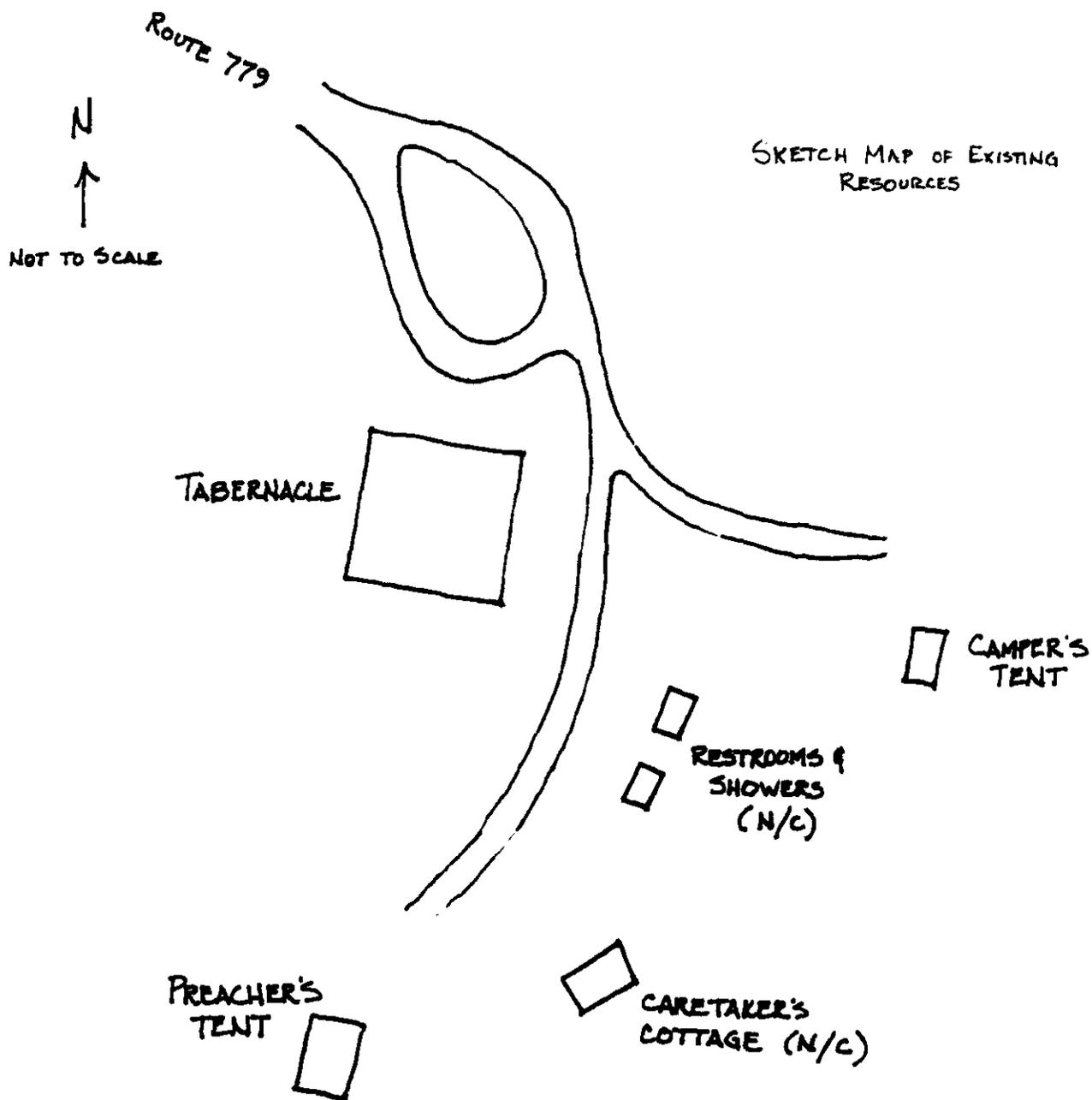
23. Harper, 1-B.
24. Ibid.
25. Ibid.
26. Jett, "Camp Meetings...", [7].
27. Newsome, [1].
28. Kelly J. O'Grady, "Kirkland Grove Camp: Worshipping God in a Sacred Place," *The Northumberland Echo*. 3 February 1988, [1].
29. Jett, "Camp Meetings....," [9].
30. Ibid.
31. Harper, 1-B.
32. Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Exhibits Page 11

Kirkland Grove Campground
Northumberland County, Virginia

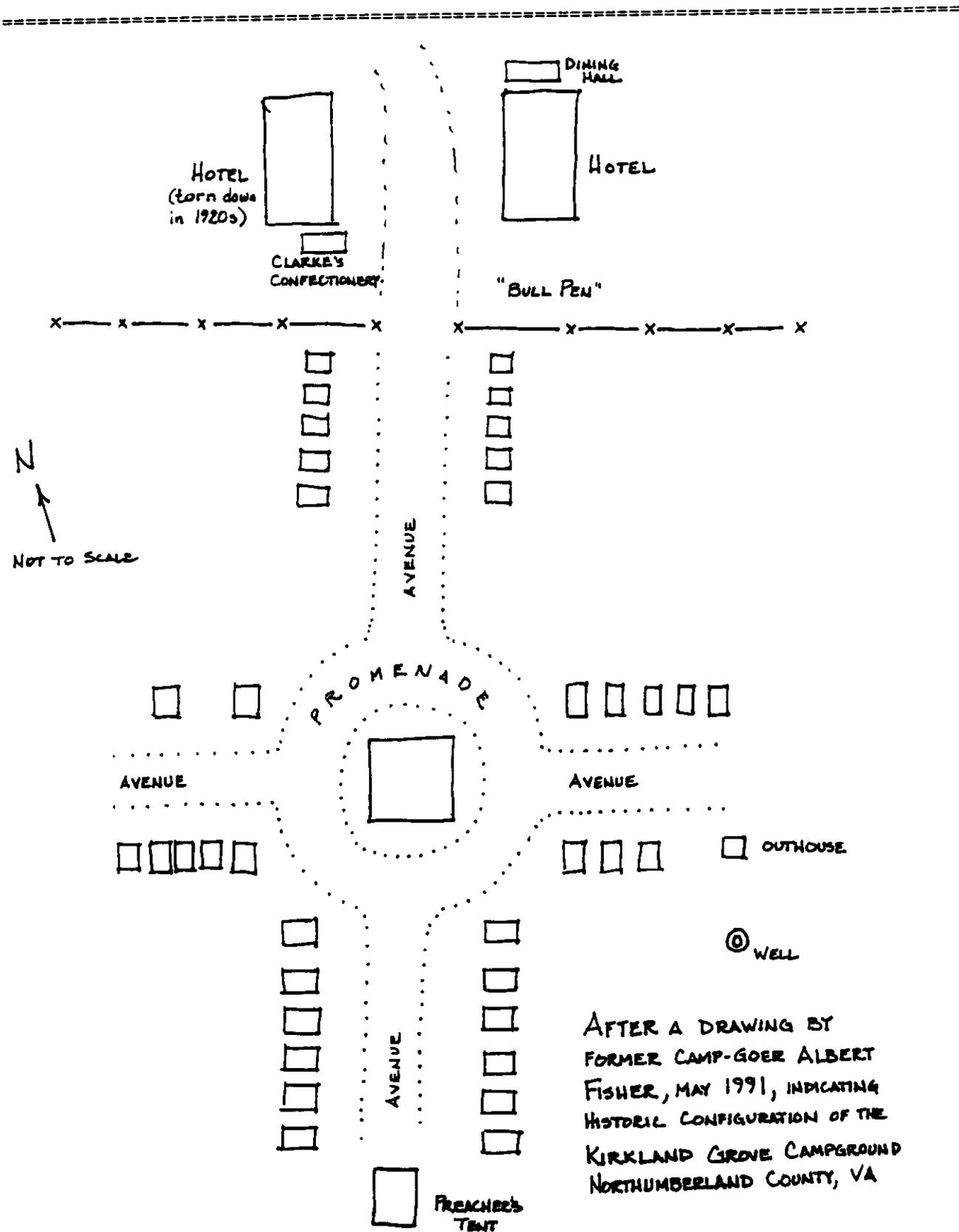


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Exhibits Page 12

Kirkland Grove Campground
Northumberland County, Virginia



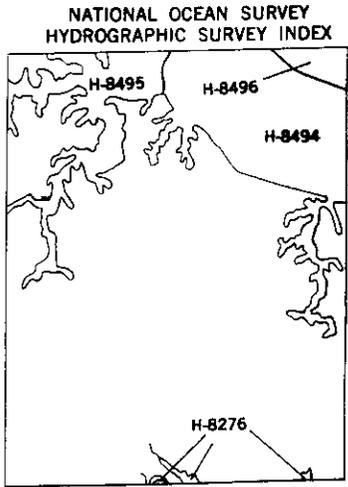
AFTER A DRAWING BY
FORMER CAMP-GOER ALBERT
FISHER, MAY 1991, INDICATING
HISTORIC CONFIGURATION OF THE
KIRKLAND GROVE CAMPGROUND
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

KIRKLAND GROVE
CAMPGROUND
NORTHUMBERLAND CO.
JTM REFERENCES:
A: 18|369440|4195740
B: 18|369420|4195420
C: 18|369320|4195420
D: 18|369300|4195800
HEATHSVILLE QUAD



(LIVELY)
5659 1 SE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey and the National Ocean Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1967. Field checked 1968
Bathymetry compiled by the National Ocean Survey from tide-coordinate hydrographic surveys. This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Mean low water (dotted) line and mean high water (heavy solid) line compiled by NOS from tide-coordinated photographs. Apparent shoreline (outer edge of vegetation) shown by light solid line
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Virginia coordinate system, south zone, and Maryland coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 9 meters south and 28 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY INFORMATION

Survey Number	Survey Date	Survey Scale	Survey Line Spacing (Neat. Miles)
H-8276	1955	1:10,000	.02-.07
H-8494	1959	1:10,000	.02-.05
H-8495	1959	1:10,000	.01-.06
H-8496	1959	1:20,000	03-.10

AND 1
A 1